

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

H-03 XMB-07 TRSE-00 OPIC-12 AID-20 RSR-01 /128 W

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R 200801Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6995

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 3700

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, YO

SUBJECT: CIVIAIR: CHARTER BILATERAL - PROPOSAL TO INVITE

HIGH-LEVEL USG OFFICIAL TO SIGNING CEREMONY

REF: BELGRADE 3685

1. WITH US-GOY CHARTER BILATERAL SIGNING NOW SCHEDULED FOR LATE SEPTEMBER, DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH CONSIDER USING OCCASION FOR PROMOTION OUR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OBJECTIVES IN YUGO-SLAVIA. IN EMBASSY VIEW, THIS AGREEMENT PROVIDES EXCELLENT PEG FOR HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL VISIT. GIVEN THE AVIATION CONTEXT AND IF HIS SCHEDULE PERMITS, CHAIRMAN OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD WOULD BE IDEAL CANDIDATE.

2. AS VICE-PRESIDENT SIROTOKOVIC STRESSED DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY, GOY ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO CONTINUING AND EXPANDING HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE. VISITS TO YUGOSLAVIA BY OPIC PRESIDENT MILLS, EXIM VICE-CHAIRMAN SAUER AND AMBASSADOR EBERLE IN 1973 HAVE DEMONSTRATED CONTINUED WASHINGTON INTEREST IN YUGOSLAVIA AND WERE WELL-RECEIVED BY GOY.

3. IN ADDITION TO POLITICAL BENEFITS ACCRUING FROM A FURTHER EXPRESSION OF HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN YUGOSLAVIA, ECONOMIC BENEFITS IN THE FORM OF AIRCRAFT SALES IS POSSIBLE BY-PRODUCT.

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JAT HAS AMBITIOUS EXPANSION PLANS TO DEVELOP ETHNIC MARKETS IN

US, CANADA, AND AUSTRALIA FOR TOURISM PURPOSES. ITS \$85 MILLION PURCHASE OF DC-9S WAS MOTIVATED IN PART BY ANTICIPATED INCREASES IN REVENUE FROM ITS INTERNATIONAL CHARTER ACTIVITIES. JAT IS EXPECTED TO PURCHASE A SIZEABLE NUMBER OF LONGER-RANGE AIRCRAFT IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. A HIGH-LEVEL DISPLAY OF INTEREST IN GOY AND JAT EFFORTS TO EXPAND THEIR TOURISM POTENTIAL CAN ONLY ASSIST OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP JAT BUYING AMERICAN.

4. THE FOREGOING HAS NOT YET BEEN RAISED WITH THE YUGOSLAVS. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL SO THAT MATTER CAN BE RAISED WITH APPROPRIATE GOY OFFICIALS AS SOON AS THEY RETURN FROM THEIR ANNUAL VACATIONS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BELGRA03700
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730828/aaaaaurx.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BELGRADE 3685
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Sep-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <10-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVIAIR: CHARTER BILATERAL - PROPOSAL TO INVITE HIGH-LEVEL USG OFFICIAL TO SIGNING CEREMONY
TAGS: ETRN, YO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005